Amendment to the Claims

Kindly amend claims 1, 7, 14, 15, 18, 25, 26 and 30, as set forth below. In compliance with the Revised Amendment Format published in the Official Gazette on February 25, 2003, a complete listing of claims is provided herein. The changes in the amended claims are shown by strikethrough (for deleted matter) and underlining (for added matter), with the exception that double brackets are used to indicate deleted matter if strikethrough cannot be easily perceived.

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1. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling system traffic of a clustered computing environment, said method comprising:

mapping one or more node addresses, for a service to be provided, to one or more network objects defined for said service, ~~wherein the mapping of a node address maps the node address to a particular network object of a plurality of network objects based on network topology~~ wherein the mapping of a node address comprises performing one or more operations on the node address to locate a particular network object of a plurality of network objects, said particular network object corresponding to the node address and including a network priority assigned to the node address for the service to be provided, said network priority indicating an order of preference for using one network over another network to access the service;

obtaining from said one or more network objects one or more network priorities of said service; and

contacting said service based on said one or more network priorities.

2. (Previously Canceled)

3. (Previously Canceled)

4. (Previously Added) The method of claim 1, wherein said mapping comprises:

identifying one or more subnetwork objects for said one or more node addresses; and

retrieving from said one or more subnetwork objects an indication of the one or more network objects.

5. (Previously Added) The method of claim 4, wherein said identifying for a node address of the one or more node addresses comprises performing an operation of the node address and a subnetwork mask corresponding to the node address to obtain an identification of a subnetwork object for the node address.

6. (Previously Added) The method of claim 5, wherein said operation comprises a logical AND operation.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising ordering the one or more network priorities.

8. (Previously Added) The method of claim 1, wherein said service comprises a system registry.

9. (Previously Added) The method of claim 1, wherein a network object of said one or more network objects is associated with one or more subnetworks, and a subnetwork of said one or more subnetworks is associated with one or more nodes having one or more node addresses.

10. (Previously Added) The method of claim 1, wherein the traffic for the service is restricted to one or more networks specified for that service.

11. (Previously Added) The method of claim 1, further comprising obtaining the one or more node addresses.

12. (Previously Added) The method of claim 11, wherein the obtaining is dependent on the service to be provided.

13. (Previously Added) The method of claim 11, wherein said service comprises a system registry service, and said obtaining comprises obtaining the one or more node addresses from a local configuration.

14. (Currently Amended) A system of controlling system traffic of a clustered computing environment, said system comprising:

means for mapping one or more node addresses, for a service to be provided, to one or more network objects defined for said service, ~~wherein the mapping of a node address maps the node address to a particular network object of a plurality of network objects based on network topology~~ wherein the means for mapping a node address comprises means for performing one or more operations on the node address to locate a particular network object of a plurality of network objects, said particular network object corresponding to the node address and including a network priority assigned to the node address for the service to be provided, said network priority indicating an order of preference for using one network over another network to access the service;

means for obtaining from said one or more network objects one or more network priorities of said service; and

means for contacting said service based on said one or more network priorities.

15. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 14, wherein said means for mapping comprises:

means for identifying one or more subnetwork objects for said one or more node addresses; and

means for retrieving from said one or more subnetwork objects an indication of the one or more network objects.

16. (Previously Added) The system of claim 15, wherein said means for identifying for a node address of the one or more node addresses comprises means for performing an operation of the node address and a subnetwork mask corresponding to the node address to obtain an identification of a subnetwork object for the node address.

17. (Previously Added) The system of claim 16, wherein said operation comprises a logical AND operation.

18. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 14, further comprising means for ordering the one or more network priorities.

19. (Previously Added) The system of claim 14, wherein said service comprises a system registry.

20. (Previously Added) The system of claim 14, wherein a network object of said one or more network objects is associated with one or more subnetworks, and a subnetwork of said one or more subnetworks is associated with one or more nodes having one or more node addresses.

21. (Previously Added) The system of claim 14, wherein the traffic for the service is restricted to one or more networks specified for that service.

22. (Previously Added) The system of claim 14, further comprising means for obtaining the one or more node addresses.

23. (Previously Added) The system of claim 22, wherein the obtaining is dependent on the service to be provided.

24. (Previously Added) The system of claim 22, wherein said service comprises a system registry service, and said means for obtaining comprises means for obtaining the one or more node addresses from a local configuration.

25. (Currently Amended) A system of controlling system traffic of a clustered computing environment, said system comprising:

one or more node addresses for a service to be provided mapped to one or more network objects defined for said service, wherein one or more operations are performed on a node address to locate a particular network object of a plurality of network objects, said particular network object corresponding to the node address and including a network priority assigned to the node address for the service to be provided, said network priority indicating an order of preference for using one network over another network to access the service;

one or more network priorities of said service obtained from said one or more network objects; and

a node to contact said service based on said one or more network priorities.

26. (Currently Amended) At least one program storage device readable by a machine tangibly embodying at least one program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method of controlling system traffic of a clustered computing environment, said method comprising:

mapping one or more node addresses, for a service to be provided, to one or more network objects defined for said service, wherein the mapping of a node address comprises performing one or more operations on the node address to locate a particular

network object of a plurality of network objects, said particular network object corresponding to the node address and including a network priority assigned to the node address for the service to be provided, said network priority indicating an order of preference for using one network over another network to access the service;

obtaining from said one or more network objects one or more network priorities of said service; and

contacting said service based on said one or more network priorities.

27. (Previously Added) The at least one program storage device of claim 26, wherein said mapping comprises:

identifying one or more subnetwork objects for said one or more node addresses; and

retrieving from said one or more subnetwork objects an indication of the one or more network objects.

28. (Previously Added) The at least one program storage device of claim 27, wherein said identifying for a node address of the one or more node addresses comprises performing an operation of the node address and a subnetwork mask corresponding to the node address to obtain an identification of a subnetwork object for the node address.

29. (Previously Added) The at least one program storage device of claim 28, wherein said operation comprises a logical AND operation.

30. (Currently Amended) The at least one program storage device of claim 26, wherein said method further comprises ordering the one or more network priorities.

31. (Previously Added) The at least one program storage device of claim 26, wherein said service comprises a system registry.

32. (Previously Added) The at least one program storage device of claim 26, wherein a network object of said one or more network objects is associated with one or more subnetworks, and a subnetwork of said one or more subnetworks is associated with one or more nodes having one or more node addresses.

33. (Previously Added) The at least one program storage device of claim 26, wherein the traffic for the service is restricted to one or more networks specified for that service.

34. (Previously Added) The at least one program storage device of claim 26, wherein said method further comprises obtaining the one or more node addresses.

35. (Previously Added) The at least one program storage device of claim 34, wherein the obtaining is dependent on the service to be provided.

36. (Previously Added) The at least one program storage device of claim 34, wherein said service comprises a system registry service, and said obtaining comprises obtaining the one or more node addresses from a local configuration.